

NU-FAX 2007/Paris Participant Bios

Jessica Abel (Orlando, Florida, USA)

Soprano Jessica Abel, born in Florida, USA, will complete her Master of Music degree program in vocal performance and pedagogy at the Peabody Conservatory this spring. In 2008 she will play the role of Papagena in the Peabody Opera production of *The Magic Flute* as will perform a recital of art song, featuring works by Wolf, Messiaen, and Ives. Ms. Abel will be performing selections from the song cycle *Six Significant Landscapes* written for her by the American Composer and Fusion Arts Exchange participant, Evan Rogers.

Shane Lee Cooper (Cape Town, South Africa)

Shane Cooper was born in Port Elizabeth, South Africa in 1985 and is now living in Cape Town. Shane is an accomplished upright bassist and electric bassist. He is the winner of several prizes at the University of Cape Town, including the Jazz Studies Medal. Shane is interested in researching, writing about, and performing unique historical township style music, and currently performs regularly with major South African jazz ensembles and bands. Shane has recently returned from performing at the New York Winter Jazz Fest with the Zim Ngqawana Quartet and the Knitting Factory.

Daouda Dao (Koutiala, Mali)

Daouda Dao was born in Koutiala, Mali, in 1984, and now lives in Bamako, Mali. Daouda is a member of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers Multimédia balla Fasséké Kouyaté. Mr. Dao is considered to be one of the highest ranked students admitted into the Malian Conservatory of Arts where he specializes in guitar and piano.

Daniel De Wet (Pretoria, South Africa)

Daniel De Wet was born in South Africa in 1983, and now lives in Pretoria. Daniel is a composer, jazz pianist and music teacher. He works regularly with key jazz and pop performers in South Africa. He is the winner of various national competitions for pianists. Completed a Bachelor's of Music at Tswane University of Technology. He competes in Brazilian martial arts competitions.

Adam Harry Golding (Johannesburg, South Africa)

Adam Golding was born in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1983. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Witwatersrand with majors in French Horn & Music Composition. Adam is currently the Assistant Conductor of the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra. He also performs regularly with *Fat Brass*, a Johannesburg-based jazz band.

Arjun Gupta (New Delhi, India)

Arjun Gupta was born in New Delhi, India, in 1985; he is a composer, jazz pianist and soloist on the blues harmonica, having studied Jazz and Western Music at the Delhi School of Music. Mr. Gupta also earned his Bachelor of Science in electronics and communication at the Institute of Technology and Management at Maharishi Dayanand University.

Marcelo Boccati Juyumjian (Campinas, Brazil)

Marcelo Boccati Juyumjian was born in Campinas, Brazil, in 1986; he is a jazz pianist and arranger, with a special interest in Brazilian music. Marcelo has appeared at the Music Festivals of Londrina and Ourinos while studying at the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP).

Mariam Koné (Kati, Mali)

Mariam Koné was born in Kati, Mali, in 1987, and now lives in Bamako, Mali. Mariam has produced and co-authored her own album of rap music titled, "Journée du lette contre le VIH – Sida 2005". Mariam is studying voice at the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers Multimédia balla Fasséké Kouyaté.

Sharon Lyons (Dublin, Ireland)

Sharon Lyons was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1983. Sharon has received awards for singing and violin performance, and currently directs two church music groups. She has traveled to Rome, Toronto and Cologne as a principal cantor with the International World Youth Days. She has received degrees from the Royal Irish Academy of Music, the University of Dublin, and soon will complete her masters at the University of Limerick.

Jonathan Meacham (Gary, Indiana, USA)

Gary, Indiana native Jonathan Meacham is a versatile percussionist in variety of classical and jazz drumming styles. Having completed studies at Northeastern University and the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Meacham is well-known in the Boston music scene. In addition, his compositions have been recognized by the *Billboard* and *West Coast Songwriters International*, and he was the recipient of the prestigious Gideon Klein Award.

Fiachra Séan O'Gairbhia (Ireland)

Pianist Fiachra O'Gairbhia was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1987, and now lives in Wicklow, Ireland. Fiachra is a member of the Royal Irish Academy of Music, where he has received numerous solo awards, including the Rhoda Coghill Cup, the Elsner Cup, the Huban Cup and the Heneghan Cup, and has performed as a soloist with various orchestras, including the Dublin Symphony Orchestra.

Evan Rogers (Washington, D.C., USA)

Evan Rogers completed his undergraduate degree in Music Technology from Northeastern University and will complete his Masters of Music degree in Composition at the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University in Spring 2008.

Anapum Roy (Kolkata, India)

Violinist Anapum Roy, born in Kolkata, India, in 1985; he is currently pursuing graduate study at Oxford University in the United Kingdom. Anapum previously served as the Concertmaster of the L'Atelier de Musique, the only string orchestra of Kolkata playing standard classical

repertoire. The L'Atelier de Musique was featured in a performance at the nation-wide launching of Doordarshan's (India Public Television) second channel as well as numerous recordings with All India Radio. Mr. Roy earned his previous degree at St. Xavier's College in Kolkata, West Bengal.

Cohomlan Paul Pawlus Sahossi (Kidal, Mali)

Cohomlan Paul Pawlus Sahossi was born in Kidal, Mali, in 1986, and now lives in Bamako, Mali. Pawlus is studying at the Faculté des Sciences Economique et Gestion. Mr. Sahossi is active in the Malian music scene as a rapper/vocalist; he has appeared on Malian television and regional satellite station Africable in music videos of his songs.

Carolina Vianna Silveira (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

Carolina Vianna Silveira was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1986. She studies voice at the Villa Lobos Institute at the Federal University of the State Rio de Janeiro (UNIRIO), one of the two most prestigious music schools in Brazil. Miss Silveira has appeared as a mezzo-soprano in numerous productions, including *The Magic Flute*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Lakme* and *Le Nozze de Figaro*.

Shari Simpson de Almedia (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)

Shari Simpson de Almedia was born in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, in 1985. Shari is an accomplished flutist with additional studies in spectral analysis and music pedagogy at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). Shari seeks to expand her own volunteer initiatives in teaching music to underprivileged students in poor communities.

Gunjan Srivastava (Mumbai, India)

Gunjan Srivastava was born in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, in 1985; he now lives in Mumbai, India. Gunjan earned his Diploma in Sound Recording at the Digital Academy in Mumbai, and in 2006 earned his Bachelors degree in Commerce at Mumbai University. Currently Gunjan is pursuing a Sound Recording and Sound Design course at Whistling Woods International in Mumbai.

Nina Young (Nyack, NY, USA)

Violinist and composer Nina Young finished her undergraduate degrees in Ocean Engineering and in Music and Theater Arts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Presently she is working towards her masters at the MIT Media Lab.

NU-FAX Paris faculty and staff

Anthony Paul De Ritis, PhD

Anthony Paul De Ritis, the Administrative Director of the Fusion Arts Exchange program in Music Composition and Performance, is currently Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Digital Media programs at Northeastern University in Boston. His compositions have received performances throughout the world, including at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, by the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center, at Harvard's Sanders Theatre as part of the Bank of America Celebrity Series, at Taipei's Zhong Shan Hall, and by the Prague Philharmonic at UNESCO headquarters in Paris where his *Melody for Peace* was premiered. De Ritis completed his Ph.D. in Music Composition at the University of California, Berkeley. De Ritis engaged in summer study at the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France under Phillipe Manoury, Tristan Murail, and Gilbert Amy (1991, 1992). De Ritis also holds a certificate in Internet Technologies and a Masters in Business Administration with an emphasis in High Tech. He is the founder and lead developer of the Online Conservatory collaboration between the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Northeastern University, which has been featured in the *New York Times*, the *Chronicle for Higher Education*, *Newsweek*, *Symphony* magazine and the *Boston Globe*. The Online Conservatory allows viewers to explore BSO programs in-depth before their performances. In 2005, the Online Conservatory was declared a "best practice" in "integrated" or "left-brain" marketing by Forrester Research. www.bso.org/conservatory.

Trevor Weston, PhD

Dr. Trevor Weston, a NU-FAX faculty mentor, is currently Associate Professor of Music at the College of Charleston, in South Carolina, USA. Dr. Weston received his Ph.D in Music Composition from the University of California, Berkeley. In 1994, Weston was awarded the prestigious George Ladd Prix de Paris from Berkeley. This award allowed him to live in Paris for two years where he audited classes at IRCAM. At the age of 10 he entered St. Thomas Choir School in New York City, where he received instruction in voice and piano. With the choir, Weston sang regular Sunday services at St. Thomas Church on Fifth Avenue as well as concerts at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fischer Hall, and he toured England, where the choir performed at Westminster Abbey and King's College Cambridge. During high school, Weston continued his musical development with organ and carillon lessons in Plainfield, N.J. Composition became his focus at Tufts University while studying with T.J Anderson and completing a double major in music and history. Weston's music has been enthusiastically received. The Detroit Free Press described his composition *Bleue*, selected for the Detroit Symphony's Unisys African-American Composer's Residency and Symposium reading sessions in 1998, as a "gently syncopated marriage of intellect and feeling..." Recently, the Charles Ives Center selected *Bleue* for a performance during the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C.

Brian Robison, PhD

Dr. Brian Robison, a NU-FAX faculty mentor, is currently Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Music at Middlebury College in Vermont. He has previously taught at the College of the Holy Cross, Northeastern University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, and Ithaca College. The creative work of Brian Robison (b.1964) reflects his performing experience in a broad range of musical styles. His principal composition teachers were Steven Stucky, Karel Husa, and Roberto Sierra at Cornell University (MFA 1992 and DMA 1999), and Burt Fenner at the Pennsylvania State University (BM 1986). He also studied with Philippe Manoury and Tristan Murail at the famed American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France, where he was awarded the Maurice Ravel Prize (Prix Maurice Ravel de la ville d'Avon) in August 1991.

Recent awards include composer residencies at Aaron Copland House (2006) and the MacDowell Colony (2006). In July 2000, the American Composers Orchestra named him the winner of the 2000 Whitaker Commission; the new work, *In search of the miraculous*, received its world premiere performance by the ACO in Carnegie Hall in 2003

Robert Ward, MM

Professor Ward, a NU-FAX faculty mentor, is currently on the faculty at Northeastern University in Boston. Robert Ward holds degrees in guitar performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, BM, and the University of California San Diego, MA. He has studied guitar with Angel, Pepe and Celin Romero. and is an honorary board member, and Artistic Director emeritus, of the Boston Classical Guitar Society.

Jungmee Kim, MM

Jungmee Kim, NU-FAX faculty mentor, is currently on the music faculty of Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, CA, as a piano coach and accompanist. Jungmee Kim earned her undergraduate degree from Northeastern University in Music Literature and Performance and her Masters of Music at the New England Conservatory in collaborative piano.

Arthur Rishi, MM

Arthur Rishi is the Associate Administrative Director of the FAX program, and the Concert Music Coordinator, at Northeastern University in Boston. He earned undergraduate and masters degrees at Harvard University, and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Boston University. Professional oratorio, concert and opera singer. Roles include Male Chorus in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*, Tito in Mozart's *La clemenza di Tito* and the Evangelist in the Bach *Passions*. Appearances are a professional chorister with conductors such as Christopher Hogwood, Andrew Parrott, and John Harbison. Mr. Rishi is also the Director of the chamber music concert series at the Harvard Business School.

Carolyn Barbo

Carolyn "Carrie" Barbo is a graduating senior at Boston College who is majoring in History with a minor in International Studies. Carrie was an extremely helpful staff person for the 2007 NU-FAX summer program. She is very detail oriented, and organized many of the student activities in Boston and for our educational study tours from a "peer" perspective. Carrie is also keeping track of day-to-day receipts for NU-FAX Paris.

Craig Bailey

Northeastern University photographer